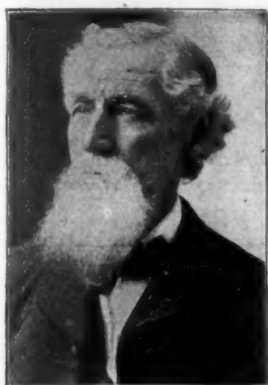


AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

44th Year.

CHICAGO, ILL., JULY 21, 1904.

No. 29.



T. F. BINGHAM.



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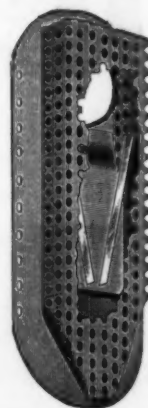


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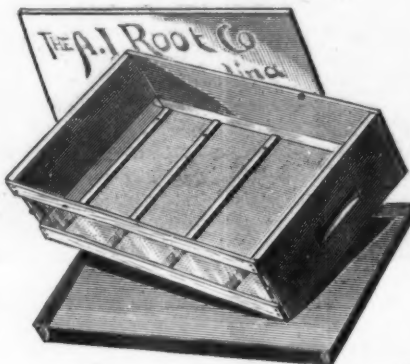
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		1	10	100	
12-in. 4-row for 4 1/4 s's		30 25	2 00	\$18 00	
10-in. 4-row		30 25	2 00	17 00	
12-in. 2-row		20 15	1 30	11 00	
10-in. 2-row		20 15	1 20	10 50	
16-in. 2-row		25 18	1 50	12 00	
8-in. 3-row		20 15	1 30	11 50	
6 1/4-in. 3-row		20 15	1 20	11 00	
7 1/2-in. 4-row for 4x5		30 22	1 80	16 00	
7 1/2-in. 3-row		25 20	1 40	12 00	
9 1/4-in. 4-row for 3 3/4 x 5		30 22	1 80	16 00	
6 1/4-in. 3-row		25 20	1 40	11 50	

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ESTABLISHED IN
1861

AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL

THE OLDEST BEE-PAPER
IN AMERICA

Entered at the Post-Office at Chicago as Second-Class Mail-Matter.

Published Weekly at \$1.00 a Year by George W. York & Co., 334 Dearborn St.

GEORGE W. YORK, Editor.

CHICAGO, ILL., JULY 21, 1904.

Vol. XLIV—No. 29.

Editorial Comments

The National Convention at St. Louis.

The next meeting of the National Bee-Keepers' Association promises to be a very important gathering. Each annual convention is such. But the St. Louis one is to be exceptional. You should be there. It is to be Sept. 27, 28, and 29. Just the best time of all the fall season. Secretary Brodbeck is preparing a great program. Big subjects.

Better get ready to go. You'll miss it if you are not there. Go, and take your wife or sweetheart. It will be a sweet time all around.

Preparation for Swarming.

Years ago it was understood as a rule without exceptions that a prime swarm would not issue until sufficient time had elapsed from the first starting of queen-cells for one or more of them to be sealed. Since movable combs came into use it has come to be regarded as a rule with many exceptions. Is it really true that there is ever an exception? To be sure, a swarm often issues with no sealed cell present, perhaps only eggs in queen-cells, but does that ever occur when the bees are left to themselves? If queen-cells are destroyed by the bee-keeper, the bees may then swarm with only eggs in queen-cells, or possibly without even as much preparation as that; but is there ever really a case in which the bees swarm inside of eight days after the first egg is laid in a queen-cell?

Destroying Queen-Cells to Prevent Swarming.

It is the common thing for the beginner, when told that the prime swarm issues when the first queen-cell is sealed, to settle down at once to the pleasing conclusion that if he can only prevent the sealing of queen-cells he has the key to the situation, and all he has to do is to destroy all queen-cells once a week and there will be no swarming. But when the bees are thus thwarted, he finds to his sorrow that in too many cases they are only made the more determined, and he may find a swarm issuing the very day after he has destroyed all queen-cells. From this some have concluded that the destroying of cells has no bearing whatever upon swarming. That is too sweeping a conclusion. In a good many cases swarming will be delayed if queen-cells are emptied, especially if containing only eggs, and sometimes the bees will give up swarming for the season. But destruction of cells is generally not to be depended upon as a means for prevention of swarming.

Grading and Casing Comb Honey.

Many a bee-keeper, who otherwise manages well to secure a good crop of honey, when it comes to grading and casing it for market makes a bad mess of it.

Some are so careless, and so heedless, as to mix in the same case the very finest white comb honey with amber, partly sealed, or even unsealed.

Partly sealed and unsealed honey should never be marketed, at least not sent to the city market. Such may, perhaps, be sold around home, but it would be better to use it in the bee-keeper's own family.

Again, we have seen section honey that was simply taken from the hives in the super, and the super and all sent off to market! Isn't that awful? Such gross carelessness or ignorance is truly inexcusable. Of course, no reader of modern bee-literature would be guilty of such work.

In order that comb honey shall bring the best price in the market it should be graded, and then each grade packed separately in nice, new no-drip shipping-cases.

Slipshod work pays no better in bee-keeping than anywhere else.

Exceptions in Swarming.

A correspondent who reports an after-swarm as issuing earlier than he expected, writes:

"On page 435 it tells how to prevent after-swarms, but as I have had several come out within two or three days after a prime swarm as mentioned above, would it not be a good idea to add the words, *but if a swarm comes out and returns, reckon one week from that day.* You see, we 'greenhorns' take the experts at just what they say. Picture me with Dr. Miller's, Prof. Cook's, and the 'A B C of Bee-Culture' books trying to figure out why that after-swarm came out ahead of time!"

It would be a nice thing if one could always give instructions that are complete, and rules that are without exceptions. But if one should always give all the variations that can be studied up by a freakish colony of bees, and tack on corollaries accordingly to any general rule, one would shrink from offering any rule. The best that can generally be done is to give the rule, and trust that the learner will have studied general principles sufficiently in his text-book to meet the various exceptions that may arise.

In the case under consideration, if the addition suggested were made to the rule, it would by no means fit all cases.

The rule given on page 435 meets a normal case of swarming, and if the suggested addition were made to the rule, it would by no means meet all cases. If stress of weather should prevent the issuing of a prime swarm at the usual time, that would shorten by a day or more the space of time between the first and second swarm, and a

second swarm might issue in a week or less. Some casualty might happen to the queen—she might be unable to fly, and issuing with a swarm might be lost, the swarm returning to the hive. Then a swarm would issue as soon as the first emerging young queen was ready to go with it, and if the bee-keeper should have failed to see the previous abortive attempt at swarming, he would be surprised to see what he called a second swarm issuing within a day or two after the first.

The Germans are wise to insist that the important thing is to learn theory as a groundwork for practice.

Appreciated Appreciation.

In the last American Bee-Keeper appears an article headed, "Let the Honey Get Ripe," with the following appreciative words of introduction:

"The agricultural press, in general, usually makes a mess of anything attempted in the line of apian discussions, but the following, from the Florida Farmer and Fruit Grower, is a rare exception to this rule, and the comment and suggestions are so excellent that we have pleasure in reprinting it in the American Bee-Keeper."

Then follows in full the editorial, "Extracting and Marketing Unripe Honey," to be found on page 131 of the American Bee Journal for Feb. 25, 1904. It is gratifying to know that the article is so fully appreciated, and the Florida Farmer and Fruit Grower shows excellent taste in making its selections, but it would be still more gratifying if the Florida Farmer and Fruit Grower would imitate the courtesy of the American Bee-Keeper by giving full credit to the source from which its selections are made.

Treatment of After-Swarms.

In general it is best to prevent after-swarms, and the plan given on page 435 will usually prove successful. But "accidents will happen in the best of families," and it is well that the novice should know how to proceed if an after-swarm issues.

The old rule was to return to the parent colony an after-swarm as often as it issued, and except for the labor involved in returning a number of times the rule was good. The philosophy of the plan is this:

When a prime swarm issues, a number of queen-cells are in the hive, and in a week or more the virgins in these cells are ready to issue. If further swarming is contemplated, only one virgin is allowed to emerge, the others being guarded in their cells by the workers. A second swarm issues with the free queen, and it may be that only one of the remaining virgins will be allowed to emerge, which virgin will accompany a third swarm, and this may continue until four or more swarms have issued. Generally, however, the colony is so weakened by the issuing of the second swarm that all virgins are allowed to emerge, a royal battle occurs, and only one aspirant for royal honors is left. If the second swarm be at once returned, the virgins may be kept in, and it may be necessary to return the swarm several times. To avoid this, have the first after-swarm that issues, and leave it standing in the shade for 24 hours. Then shake the bees down in front of the mother colony, letting the bees run in. The mother colony, during that 24 hours, will have allowed all virgins to emerge from their cells, and there will be no more swarming.

"The Hum of the Bees in the Apple-Tree Bloom" is the name of the finest bee-keeper's song—words by Hon. Eugene Secor and music by Dr. C. C. Miller. This is thought by some to be the best bee-song yet written by Mr. Secor and Dr. Miller. It is, indeed, a "hummer." We can furnish a single copy of it postpaid, for 10 cents, or 3 copies for 25 cents. Or, we will mail a half-dozen copies of it for sending us one new yearly subscription to the American Bee Journal at \$1.00.

Miscellaneous Items

Jas. A. Green, bee-inspector for Mesa Co., Colo., wrote wrote us July 8:

"The honey-flow so far this season has been very light; very few swarms and very little honey. Causes: Cool weather and overstocking."

General Manager N. E. France, of Grant Co., Wis., writing us July 7, reported that there was not much show for a honey harvest in southern Wisconsin, but that there is an abundance of alsike in central Wisconsin, with a fair harvest prospect.

Hon. E. Whitecomb, of Saline Co., Nebr., one of the board of directors of the National Bee-Keepers' Association, has an article on "Nebraska Honey-Bees," in The Saturday Summary, published at Beatrice, Nebr. Mr. Whitcomb is entertaining both as a speaker and as a writer, either on bees or on any other subject that he takes up.

Prof. Geo. E. Thompson, for many years editor of the publications of the Government Bureau of Animal Industry, Washington, D. C., is a candidate for the office of Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, to succeed the late lamented Mr. Brigham. We trust that President Roosevelt will appoint Prof. Thompson, as we believe he possesses the qualifications necessary to fill that high position with satisfaction to all.

Car-Load of Texas Bee-Keepers for St. Louis.—H. H. Hyde, of Floresville, Tex., is making up a car-load of bee-keepers to go to the St. Louis convention together. The train will leave San Antonio the evening of Sept. 24, over "Katy." Those who are going, from that region, and wish to get with this crowd, or join it on its way out of Texas, should write to Mr. Hyde for full particulars and sleeper rates. It's the best way to go. No one who was in the special car-load to the Los Angeles convention last August will ever forget that trip. It was a bee-keepers' meeting over 2000 miles long.

Convention Proceedings

Report of the Michigan State Bee-Keepers' Convention.

BY E. B. TYRRELL, SEC.

(Continued from page 487.)

COMB OR EXTRACTED HONEY—WHICH?

QUES.—"Which is more profitable to produce, comb or extracted honey?"

Mr. Larrabee produces comb honey, but will change to extracted next season. He really favors comb honey, but hasn't the time for it. He would use the Langstroth hive, either 8 or 10 frame.

Mr. Griggs favors comb honey. He uses both bee-way and plain sections, but favors the plain sections. He is not sure that he gets as much honey with separators, but he gets it in better shape. He prefers the 10-frame hive, as it requires less work and attention, and uses full sheets of foundation in both brood department and supers. He hives the new swarm on the old stand, puts supers from the old

hive on the new swarm, and practices tiering up. He puts the empty super under the partly filled one during the height of the honey-flow, but on top at the close of the flow.

Mr. Smith produced comb honey last season from bees he bought, and secured the most honey with plain sections and fence separators.

Mr. Wood discarded everything three years ago for plain sections and fences. He uses sections $4\frac{1}{2} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$, $3\frac{3}{4} \times 5$, and $4\frac{1}{4} \times 4\frac{1}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$. He prefers the fence lengthwise of the hive.

Mr. Hunt says that trade has been growing very much in favor of plain sections, but he now sells more of the $4\frac{1}{4} \times 4\frac{1}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ slotted than the plain.

C. M. Davenport finds it more profitable to produce comb than extracted honey, and favors plain sections, as he gets 16 cents for honey in plain to 13 for it in the bee-way sections.

Mr. Wood finds more finished sections with the fence separator.

Mr. Soper has customers complain of the posts coming off of the fence separators, and asked if that is the rule.

Mr. Griggs has no trouble if they are dry. He removes the separator with a knife.

Mr. Wilson has no trouble with the posts coming off, and prefers the $4\frac{1}{4}$ plain to the 4×5 . He wouldn't use bee-way sections.

Mr. Woodman has sold more $4\frac{1}{4} \times 4\frac{1}{4} \times 1\frac{1}{2}$ bee-way sections than any other kind, although the sale of plain sections is on the increase. He would prefer the $4\frac{1}{4}$ bee-way. He found more fancy honey in $4\frac{1}{4}$ than in the plain.

Mr. Hutchinson said a man in New York, in cleaning sections, had some coarse wire-cloth stretched on 2×4 pieces, and rubbed the sections on this cloth for cleaning.

C. W. Dansforth asked why so many produce extracted honey. He prefers comb honey.

Mr. Black wanted to hear from those who produce both. Mr. Chapman started 20 years ago producing comb honey, but soon found he could get in his locality 5 or 6 pounds of extracted to one of comb, because the nights are so cold that bees can't work in the supers to advantage. Location makes a big difference.

Mr. Ludington has kept bees 30 years, and prefers extracted. His best yield of comb honey was 140 pounds, while his best yield of extracted was 360 pounds from one colony. His average yield per colony is 150 pounds of extracted.

Mr. Leach thinks that location plays a big part. If located near market, comb honey is preferable, while if it must be shipped far extracted honey is more profitable. He now prefers to extract what he has to ship.

Mr. Wood prefers to produce extracted. He has produced both, but will run exclusively for extracted in the future. He can sell extracted at 13 cents to comb at 16 cents. He prevents swarming by placing a frame of unsealed brood in a hive filled up with empty combs, then puts on a hive of empty combs, and the hive of brood on top.

Mr. Chapman tried this way, but did not like it. He kills the queens at the beginning of the basswood flow, and the bees fill up the empty cells with honey, thus getting in good condition for winter.

Mr. Dansforth asked what time is best to put on supers. Mr. Griggs said any time the hive becomes crowded, whether the honey-flow has started or not.

USE OF QUEEN-EXCLUDERS.

QUES.—“When and why would you use queen-excluder?”

Mr. Chapman uses the queen-excluder for extracted honey. He wants the queen confined to the lower story during the honey-flow. He uses the 8-frame hive.

Mr. Griggs uses queen-excluders when hiving swarms, if the swarm is large. He does not use them on old colonies. He produces comb honey.

Mr. Smith said if you wait a short time after hiving a swarm before putting on supers, it is not necessary to use the excluder.

Mr. Hutchinson said it isn't necessary to use a queen-excluder on the old colony for comb honey, but does on the new swarm.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

The election of officers resulted in the following being elected:

President, W. Z. Hutchinson; Vice-President, E. M. Hunt; Secretary, E. B. Tyrrell, of Davison; and Treasurer, D. D. Wood.

The time and place of holding the next meeting was left to the Executive Committee.

Friday morning there was held a joint session with the fruit-growers. Pres. Hutchinson read the following paper on

SPECIALTY VS. MIXED BEE-KEEPING.

Time was when many of the industries were represented in one family. Flax and wool were grown, spun and made into cloth and worked up into clothing. Cows were kept, and cheese as well as butter made for home use. Poultry and a few colonies of bees added to the comforts of the household. But there is no need of going into detail; every one knows how people lived 100 years ago.

Cheap and rapid transportation has encouraged the invention of machinery, the building of factories, and the classification of labor. This has brought about *specialty*. No one disputes that this condition of things is better. By it our comforts are more than trebled. Some industries branched out as specialties much sooner than others. Bee-keeping was among the later ones. At least, however, it has become recognized as an industry of itself.

At present, however, there are farmers who are keeping a few bees—perhaps a good many bees—and apiarists who are managing small farms, perhaps large ones; there are men engaged in some other occupation who are thinking of taking up bee-keeping, or may have already done so; and there are bee-keepers asking, “What will best mix with bee-keeping?”

I have little faith in that old saw about “not having all of the eggs in one basket.” I say, yes, have them all in one basket, and then carry that basket so skillfully that none are broken. I know there are trying seasons for specialties in any branch of business; times when it might be better, in that particular year, if there were more than one egg-basket; but the specialist does enough better, in the good years, to bring specialty out at the head in the long run. The specialist can have the best tools, appliances, and labor-saving implements—things that the dabbler can't afford. He can do and have many things in a wholesale way that would be unprofitable upon a small scale. Upon this point Mr. R. L. Taylor once wrote:

“A multiplicity of occupations multiplies the burdens of responsibility, induces unrest and embarrassment, and our powers becoming overtaxed, carelessness, slovenliness, unthrift and failure result. A ‘Jack at all trades’ is almost a synonym of a ne'er-do-well. What reason is there for dulling the edge of skill, and sacrificing thoroughness, by combining another business with that of bee-keeping? Not certainly to fill up time. Bee-keeping as a specialty is no small business. It is capable of great expansion. It can well furnish work for every day in the year, and the larger the business the smaller the proportional expense of the plant and the management, and, consequently, the larger the profits. If bee-keeping is so unprofitable as a specialty that the operator must pursue another business to eke out a living, then it is too unprofitable to be pursued at all, and should be abandoned altogether. If it can be made profitable as a specialty, with all the advantages that specialty brings, then it can not be made profitable as a subsidiary pursuit. We see this demonstrated in practice. It is not the specialist, but the non-specialist, that fails.”

Many professional men take up bee-keeping as a pastime. With them I can not have any more argument than with the bee-keeper who studies music for pleasure. But upon a money basis it is a far different thing. When a man is engaged in some pursuit that is capable of absorbing all of his energy and capital, I doubt if he can add to his pleasure or his pocket-book by adding some other business to his regular occupation. The bee-keeping specialist, with his hundreds of colonies, his improved hives, appliances and methods, can and does produce honey more cheaply than the man with a few colonies. By specialty is not meant that a man does *nothing* else, but that it is his *main* business.

It is true that there are industries in which there is a mutual advantage in their combination. The fattening of hogs, and the running of a grist-mill, or of a slaughter-house, is an example. The keeping of swine and the raising of apples also brings about a mutual advantage. The swine enrich and “cultivate” the soil, and eat the wormy apples that fall. This is good for the trees, and the apples are good for the hogs. There is no business that can be united with bee-keeping to any great mutual advantage. There is a *slight* mutual advantage in the keeping of bees and the raising of fruit. Not small fruit that must be picked when the bees are swarming. There is also some advantage in the raising of alsike clover, or of buckwheat, but not sufficient to warrant a bee-keeper in buying a farm, or a fruit-grower to run an apiary.

I hope no one will imagine that I am advising bee-keeping as a specialty without previous experience. How this experience shall be acquired, although an interesting topic, is not the one now under discussion. I might say, however, that nearly all of our bee-keeping specialists acquired this knowledge in a small way in connection with some other pursuit. They were better fitted for bee-keeping, and, at last, the old business was dropped for the new. Some of our specialists learned their business by an apprenticeship to some successful bee-keeper, which is the quickest and most preferable method.

Let us suppose that the highest success is attainable only by specialty. Having done this, we must not forget that there are "many men of many minds;" that "circumstances alter cases;" and that all men and all cases are not fitted for specialty. Some men prefer to lessen the risk of total failure, by having the eggs in more than one basket, even if it makes *costly eggs*. A man with a small farm may have time to care for a few bees, or a farmer may have sons and daughters who can do a large share of the work. The reasons *why* a man sometimes desires, or is compelled, to mix something else with bees are too varied for mention here. It is evident that the greatest success can be hoped for only with specialty, yet no cut-and-dried, cast-iron rules can be laid down. A man must study himself, his surroundings, and the conditions of his particular case.

It is evident that those occupations will best mix with bee-keeping that can be followed in the winter; or at least those requiring little or no attention during the busy season with the bees. What would be best for one man would be poor business for another. Among the avocations that have been mentioned are wood-chopping; teaching the district school in winter; or teaching singing school or writing school; raising grapes or apples, or other fall fruits; keeping Jerseys and making winter butter; canvassing, broom-making, etc.

W. Z. HUTCHINSON.

This was to have been responded to by Ernest R. Root, but he being absent Secretary Tyrrell responded with a few remarks, agreeing mainly with the views given by Pres. Hutchinson.

The Friday afternoon session was called to order at 2:15.

BUYING BEE-SUPPLIES—ADVERTISING HONEY.

The question of buying bee-supplies was first discussed as a measure to hold our membership, but as a plan more easy to try, the following motion was passed:

Moved and supported that the secretary of the Michigan State Bee-Keepers' Association be authorized to use any funds in his hands belonging to the Association, in getting up a pamphlet showing the advantages of honey as food, and giving a list of names and addresses of members, together with the amount and kind of honey each has for sale, how put up, etc., and this pamphlet be advertised in some desirable medium, as a daily paper. This means that every member has an equal chance of selling his honey directly to the consumer, or whoever answers the advertisement.

"SHOOK" SWARMING.

The question of shook swarming was taken up. Mr. Townsend has practiced it on one yard for two seasons with success. He loses about the same percentage from leaving the hive as natural swarms. He doesn't use drawn comb, but full sheets of foundation in the brood-nest, and waits for queen-cells before shaking. He visits the yard once a week.

Mr. Griggs had about 4 out of 5 swarms come out after shaking. He doesn't like the practice of shaking. He shakes them on full sheets of foundation. If a comb of brood were put in the hive they staid all right.

Mr. Morgan said when he put in frames of brood they would build queen-cells and then swarm.

Mr. Townsend thinks that brushed swarms will stay just as well as natural ones.

Mr. Ludington has put new swarms in hives that had previously swarmed, with a young queen, and never had them swarm out. He has changed places with a weak and a strong colony, caging the queen of the weak colony, and had good results.

Mr. Woodward asked if Italian bees are more apt to swarm than others.

Mr. Wood said not. He gets queens from Italy that will not swarm.

Mr. Olin said he agrees with Mr. Wood, that queens direct from Italy are poor swarmers, and very gentle.

Mr. Wood gets as high as 180 pounds of comb honey from a colony with an imported queen.

Mr. Cavanaugh said Italians are more for swarming, in his experience.

Mr. Griggs had better results last year from black bees. They were also better to handle than the Italians.

Mr. Wilson has as good results from Italians.

Mr. Wood says many breeders in Italy send Cyprian queens for Italian. Italians are dark.

The question of bees locating a home was discussed, with the decision that they sometimes do.

The convention adjourned. E. B. TYRRELL, Sec.

Contributed Articles

Management for Few Unfinished Sections.

BY G. M. DOOLITTLE.

HOW to manage our bees so as to secure the greatest yield of comb honey, is a question of great importance to all those who are engaged in producing such honey for market, but comb honey is of little value unless pretty nearly, or fully sealed over, so that how to manage our bees so as to have few uncapped sections in the fall is a question of more vital importance, perhaps, than the one we have been in the habit of regarding as the greatest. For years I was troubled by having from one-fourth to one-third of the combs in the sections not fully sealed at the close of the honey harvest, which were salable only at a reduced price; but of late years I do not have as many as formerly.

After experimenting for some years in this matter I became convinced that the cause of the trouble was in giving the bees too many sections; and especially conducive to this was the plan of tiering up sections late in the season. Many, yes, very many times, years ago, I spoiled a promise of an abundant yield of comb honey by tiering up four or five days before the honey harvest closed. To tier up sections profitably, requires considerable tact, and especially do we want a thorough knowledge of the honey-resources of the field we occupy.

It has seemed to me that there has been too much injudicious talk during the past regarding not allowing the bees, under any circumstances, to cluster on the outside of the hive, the idea being generally conveyed that, when bees thus cluster out, they need more room. To my mind it depends upon when this clustering out occurs, whether more room is needed or not; and for this reason I said "injudicious talk." If the clustering out occurs at the commencement or in the height of the honey harvest, then more room should be given; while if at the latter part of the honey harvest, or in a time of honey-dearth, no more is needed, for more room at this time results in the one case of many unfinished sections, and in the other in an absolute waste of the time used in enlarging the hive. Allow me to illustrate:

During some seasons we have but very few days of honey-secretion, and that often after the flowers which produce the nectar are rather past their prime. At such times we often do not have on the hive more than one-half the capacity which we would use in a good season, and for this reason the bees begin to be crowded out. Hoping that the weather may continue good, and that the flowers will secrete nectar during the rest of the time that they are in bloom, we double the room for our colonies, only to have it turn bad weather again, thus giving us only partially filled sections in the fall, while had we left them as they were, and not have been stampeded at the sight of a few bees hanging out on the front of the hive, all would have been finished.

I well recollect one such season when, in time of bass-wood bloom, we had bad weather up to the middle of the same. At this time I had on the hives about one-half of the surplus room generally used, when, all at once, the yield of honey became abundant, and the bees began to crowd out. Hoping that the weather might be good for some time, I doubled the capacity on a few hives. The result was that the bees immediately took possession of the empty sections, while the weather turned unfavorable again, and when the season was over I did not secure half

as many finished sections from these colonies as I did from those which were allowed to remain as they were.

Again, very often after basswood bloom has failed there comes on very hot weather, when not a bit of nectar can be obtained, and the result is that the fronts of the hives are black with bees. According to the advice of "never allow your bees to lay out," or "whenever you see the bees laying out, more room should be given," the sections should be hustled on at once, till there is room enough for all the bees inside, before the bee-keeper could rest in this matter; and some have gone so far as to tell us at such times as this (at least no qualification was made in the matter as to time, regarding the yield of honey, etc.), we should smoke the bees in, after having given the room, continuing this smoking until they would stay in the hives.

Any one can see at a glance that such unqualified talk and advice as this would do only harm, and be of no use, for at such times the bees are doing just as much for the benefit of the apiarist by hanging on the outside of the hive as to be elsewhere. Yea, more, for if they were out vainly searching for honey, when there was none, they would be wearing out their vitality so that they would be gone before the next nectar-secreting flowers came into bloom, as well as to consume an amount of honey from the hive equal to what was needed extra to give them strength for this vain foraging.

My plan of securing nearly all completed combs of honey in the sections is as follows:

When the bees show, by building little bits of comb here and there about the hive, that they are ready for the sections, I put on only the amount of room that I think they will reasonably fill in a very poor year, and leave them thus till the bees are well at work, when I give about the same amount more, if this is during the forepart of the honey harvest, and when this room is fully occupied I give the same amount again, if we have not passed the middle of what is our usual honey-flow. By the time the bees fully occupy the last room given, that first put on will be ready to come off, and when this is taken, if more room is needed it is put above the sections the bees are already at work in, so that they may not be forced into these last sections until they are lacking in room to work below.

If the yield continues, I keep taking off the filled sections next the hive and putting the empty on top of those the bees are already at work in, until the season begins to draw to a close, when, as fast as the full are taken, the others are lowered down till the space is contracted to the original capacity that was first put on. In this way the bees are given all the space they really need, while the chance for many unfinished sections in the fall is quite small. Such items as these are well worth looking after and studying upon; for they who understand the most about all these little kinks of practical bee-keeping are the ones who will make the greatest success in the apicultural world.

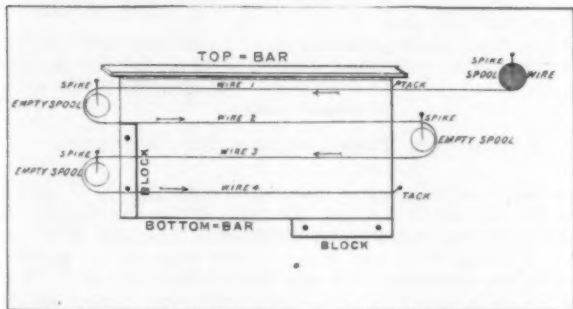
Onondaga Co., N. Y.

A Method of Wiring Frames.

BY LOUIS F. WAHL.

I ENCLOSE here a drawing showing my method of wiring frames, or one more kink to keep kinks out of wire while wiring frames.

I learned the value of wired frames and foundation in my earliest bee-keeping, but putting wire in frames had been a tangling and kinking up job with me until last sum-



mer, when I got an old table and laid a frame on the center, stood a spool of wire on its end and drove a spike through the spool in the table, about 3 inches from the end-bar to

the right. I then took three empty spools and drove spikes through them in the table at the center of the pierced holes where the wire bends around the end-bar—two on the left end and one on the right. I then nailed a block 1x1x6 at the right-hand corner of the bottom-bar, and tacked a block on the inside of the frame thin enough to slip under the wires against the left-hand end-bar to hold the frame square.

To proceed to wiring, have two tacks started in the top edge of the end-bar to the right over the pierced holes, as shown in the cut. Now thread the wire, whirling it around empty spools until you get to the last hole, where you whirl the end of the wire around the track, and then drive the tack in tight. Now take the wire off the spools and catch the wire No. 3 with the left thumb, holding your four fingers over the top-bar, then wind up slack with the right hand; then catch wire No. 2 in the same way, and whirl the wire around the tack and drive the tack home; cut off the wire and whirl the end half way around the empty spool to the right, to keep the wire from raveling until you start the next frame.

If a board the proper length and breadth were made, and bolts with round heads without any square shoulder were used to go through the spools instead of spikes, and the top edge of the spools were clipped off, I think the wire would slip off the spools more easily, and there would not be so much slack to wind up. Mr. W. L. Coggs shall uses only two wires in the frame, and cuts the wire the proper length before wiring, therefore no spools would be required; but where more than two wires are used the spools are desirable.

By the way, I worked for Mr. Coggs shall during the buckwheat flow in September, 1900, and graduated in the bee-business. I was not there long enough to be called "a lightning operator," but I thought I moved like lightning some of the time. On one occasion when I was uncapping, and "W. L." was extracting and filling kegs, a bee began crawling into my ear. I dropped my knife to take her out, when I heard "W. L." laugh, and saying, "Let her go; let her go; she is looking for wax."

I never enjoyed a happier time in my life, and any young man that has the chance shouldn't miss it.

Monroe Co., N. Y.

Honey in Sections vs. Chunk-Honey.

BY G. C. GREINER.

THE recently-sprung-up chunk-honey business, with all its enthusiastic advocates, is another great surprise to me. Are we drifting back to the days of our forefathers? Have the efforts of our most prominent bee-experts—to bring about the perfection of a convenient, up-to-date comb-honey package in the shape of the world-renowned one-pound section—all been in vain? Are the almost wonderful inventions in the line of expensive section-machinery doomed to be thrown aside to make room for the manufacture of chunk-honey tubs, pails, cans, etc.? Are we bee-keepers going to lay temptation at our neighbor's door by offering the very best opportunity for adulteration, instead of casting our influence in the opposite direction? Are we willing to sacrifice our well-merited reputation of Yankee ingenuity, and neat and tasty workmanship, for an insignificant, perhaps imaginary, financial gain? These are some of the thoughts that engage my mental faculties whenever I am reminded of the chunk-honey business.

As a prelude to the few remarks on the foregoing points, which I wish to make, let me say that I may be a little cranky in my views. I do not ask or expect any person to fall in with me, or take any stock in my arguments, unless so inclined. I simply express my views as they appear to me, the result of past experience and observation.

In my earlier days—some 50 years ago—when still living on the other side of the big waters, I had frequent opportunities to witness the operations of what we considered at that time expert bee-keepers. Bees were then generally kept in the old-fashioned straw-skeps, and the only way to obtain surplus honey was to take it from the brood-chamber. The hive was tipped up, or laid on its side, and with a long, hooked-shaped knife some of the combs that appeared to contain mostly honey and little or no brood (generally side combs) were detached and taken out. The honey so gathered was stored in crocks and pails, or other available dishes, and kept to supply the home trade. When customers called for honey they always brought their own dishes, and the number of pounds they wished to buy had to be

ladled out as the conditions would best permit. Without going into details, we can well imagine that the whole transaction from beginning to end was a mussy, inconvenient, and unbusiness-like affair. With the exception of the use and the advantage of the movable frames, the chunk-honey business of to-day has a striking similarity to the doings of 50 years ago.

But this is not so very serious. If bee-keepers prefer to produce their surplus honey in chunk-honey style, and consumers prefer to buy in this way, no particular harm is done, although from natural inclination I would neither produce nor buy it.

But what about adulteration? We are making a great noise about having laws passed against food adulteration (bee-keepers in particular against honey adulteration), and then we turn around and open the way, fairly inviting others to engage in this nefarious business. I do not wish to intimate that bee-keepers would be found guilty of any sleight-of-hand performances of this kind. No! bee-keepers are too honest for that; but what is to hinder the unscrupulous retailer from putting a lot of chunk-honey in a tub and filling it up with Mr. Rockefeller's corn-juice, and selling it all as honey? The very idea of mixing extracted honey with comb honey bears the stamp of trickiness on its forehead. Why mix it? Is it necessary to dispose of our extracted honey under the disguise of comb-honey? If we wished to sell extracted honey why not make a clean job of it and sell it as such—it will sell on its own merits if properly handled; and then produce the comb-honey in neat, clean sections, and sell them as comb honey. This would not only be more business-like, but it would reduce the chances of adulteration 50 percent; we would be sure that the comb honey, at least, could not be adulterated.

Then, again, what is the object in producing chunk-honey? If it is easier and cheaper to produce it we also get a cheaper and greatly inferior article by that means, which has to be sold at a less price to sell it at all; and if this is the case, I emphatically say, *Don't produce chunk-honey*, for we only run competition to our own business. Better produce a No. 1 article and get a No. 1 price, even if it is a little more expensive.

But I hear some one say, "It will bring as much in market as the best section honey." This I doubt very much. It may be true in some cases, where consumers never had an opportunity to get acquainted with the more attractive, neat and tasty section-honey, but in more progressive localities, where the people have been educated in their tastes and notions by the progress of the times, chunk-honey would have to take a very prominent back seat. And this is not strange.

Let us step into one of our up-to-date grocery stores and look around. There we find on one of their highly polished counters, conspicuously exhibited among other first-class goods, a clean, tasty and properly-put-up case of 24 A No. 1 sections of extra-white clover honey. Near by, we will suppose, stands a tub or crock of chunk-honey, with a ladle or large spoon for the means of distribution. To make a display of its contents, the vessel has to be open, thus making a grand gathering-place for all sweet-loving insects, to say nothing of the dust that is constantly settling on our precious sweet. To retail it, the buyer has to furnish his own dish, or the grocery man has to supply the necessary utensil in the shape of a wooden butter-tray or paper oyster-pail. In either case it is a wasteful venture, for a good proportion of the purchase will remain sticking to the dish when the honey is finally transferred to the plate for the table, and, if ever so carefully managed, it will be more or less mussy.

Then compare this to the handling of sections. Any number of pounds can be readily taken from the case and wrapped up; it makes a convenient and clean package to handle, and when the good housewife places the contents of one of the sections on the table she is sure to tempt the most exacting of her table company with its tasty and inviting appearance.

With this contrast so plainly to be noticed, I can hardly believe that any rational being would be willing to buy chunk honey as long as any honey in sections can be bought at the same price; and to sell it for less would, as I said before, have a tendency to hurt our section-honey market. There is a certain class of people who are not overly particular in their demands as regards style or neatness, and these would undoubtedly buy chunk-honey if they could save a cent or two per pound. This, of course, would lessen the demand for section-honey just so much, and a downward tendency of its price would be the natural consequence.

There is another point, although not exactly in the chunk-honey line, where, I think, we bee-keepers make a mistake, and that is, to sell a little off-grade or imperfect sections at less than regular market price. This may seem no more than fair, but under certain conditions it may be detrimental to our own interests.

For instance, a short time ago a neighbor called at my place to buy some honey. He did not feel inclined to pay the full market price, but wanted to know if I had any second-grade stock that I would sell for less. I explained to him that all my honey was first-class white honey, no other being produced here, but that I had a lot of unfinished sections, reserved for my own home use, that I would sell for less per section. After looking it over he decided to take a case of 24 sections at the price I had named. I will say right here, that as near as I could estimate the weight of those unfinished sections, I charged him as much per pound as I sold my full-weight sections for.

Soon after, on one of my trips, I called at a place where the lady of the house wished to buy some honey. When I stated my prices (I had comb and extracted) she said: "Can't you sell to me as cheap as you did to such and such a person?" My reply was that he had bought unfinished honey, while I offered her all finished sections. "Oh! well," she said, "I ate some of that honey at their table, and it was just as good as your sections. If I can't buy as cheap as he did, I won't buy any." It took me some time to convince her that I had given her friend no better bargain than I had offered her.

To obviate all such trouble, and do a straight-forward, systematic business, my motto is, "Sell regular goods at regular prices." And I consider chunk-honey one of the irregularities. Niagara Co., N. Y.

Our Bee-Keeping Sisters

Conducted by EMMA M. WILSON, Marengo, Ill.

Sisters, What Has the Harvest Been?

DEAR BEE-KEEPING SISTERS:—Now that we are fairly launched in the season of 1904, wouldn't it be a nice thing for each to report as to the harvest? As members of one family each naturally likes to know what the others are doing. The brothers are no doubt too busy, but can't the sisters find just a little time to give us some idea of how the bees are progressing?

Especially is it desirable to have a report from each as soon as the harvest is over. Such a report should always give the number of pounds of comb honey harvested, the number of extracted, and also the number of colonies spring count. Sometimes a report is given something like this:

"I took 360 pounds of comb honey this season."

Now, what idea can one have from that alone whether the season was a prosperous one or not? If 360 pounds are taken from 4 colonies, spring count, it's quite a different thing from getting the same amount from 20 colonies. And yet sometimes the amount harvested is all that is given, without a word said about how many colonies were engaged in the work. Come to think of it, I'm not sure any of the sisters every reported in that imperfect way—perhaps it was only the brothers.

Now, dear sisters, please keep track of the amount of honey you take, and then report, if it is only on a postal card. EMMA M. WILSON.

California Bee-Keeping for Women.

In the June number of Good Housekeeping, is an article entitled "Honey," written by Miss Flora McIntyre, the daughter of the well-known California apiarist, J. F. McIntyre, the man who has had a larger number of colonies in one apiary than perhaps any one else in the world. Miss McIntyre is a practical bee-keeper, and her father speaks with pride of the tons of honey she extracted last summer. As we might expect, coming from such a source, the article is well written. The illustrations are also good. She has a word to say about bee-keeping for women, and closes with

a very pretty picture of the sunny side of bee-keeping in the wilds of California:

Here are the closing words of her article:

I must say a word about the desirability of bee-keeping as an occupation for women. Its possibility is a settled fact; for many women have worked at it successfully. My father employed a girl last year at our out-apiary, and said that her work was more satisfactory than that of any of his hired men. It is out-of-door work, and therefore peculiarly healthful. I know, for I have tried it. After the day's work in the warm sun is over, there is nothing to do but enjoy one's self. Bees retire early, and it is not well to disturb them after sundown. Then, when the canyon is in shadow, when the air is still, sweet-scented and refreshingly cool, when no sound is heard but the hum of late-returning bees, and the rush of water in the creek, the bee-keeper saddles his pony and gallops down to the post-office; or, if he chooses, rides up the canyon. There, where the road passes between the oak tree and the sycamore, where the mountain rises on one side, and the creek flows along on the other, almost hidden by the trees which line its bank, the shades of green in the blackberry vines, and the poison oak are exquisite. He rides on and on, without a care, until the shadow reaches that long ledge of rock on yonder mountain to the east, then he turns homeward, for, when the sunlight leaves, the darkness comes quickly.

On warm summer mornings there is the "dip" in the swimming pool below the barn, or for the angler the rod and line, some bait, and, presto, some brook trout for breakfast, for they bite well early in the morning.

Sometimes on warm summer days, when the bees do not need one's attention, there is time for a long afternoon in the shaded hammock with a book, or with the dreams of the lovely country home which the golden honey will some day build, as beautiful and picturesque as that of any actress; of the music books and art with which it will be filled; of fine horses in its stable; of the friends who will gather to enjoy it all. All this to be some day when the bee-keeper is rich enough. With sufficient judgment, hard work and "bee-sense" this dream may be made a reality.

With the end of August, the bees in readiness for the winter, the bee-keeper may go the city, if he likes.

Honey and Almond Cream.

Recipe for honey and almond cream: Honey, one ounce; powdered castile soap, $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce; oil of sweet almonds, 13 ounces; oil of bitter almonds, $\frac{1}{2}$ dram; oil of bergamot, $\frac{1}{4}$ dram; oil of cloves, 7 drops; balsam of Peru, $\frac{1}{2}$ dram; liquid potassa, $\frac{1}{2}$ dram. Mix the oils with the balsam, then mix the honey with the soap; add enough of the potassa to make a nice cream; add this to the first mixture, and beat for several minutes.—Chicago Record-Herald.

Basswood Late, But Promising.

Basswood has not opened up yet. It is very late this year. The trees are very full of buds. We think it will be as late as July 12 before the bees work on the basswood.

MRS. ADA L. (PICKARD) BOGGS.

Richland Co., Wis., July 8.

Hasty's Afterthoughts

The "Old Reliable" seen through New and Unreliable Glasses.
By E. E. HASTY, Sta. B Rural, Toledo, Ohio.

COMB-LEVELERS FOR PARTLY-FILLED SECTIONS.

And so Mr. Greiner has had a different kind of comb-leveler in use this 20 years. If it's "nuts and raisins," he has kept the nuts and raisins from us for a long time. The instrument looks plausible as it appears in the pictures. In weather not too hot and not too cold I guess it would work. No great harm if it does make the section look a little ragged—bees will soon fix that. The Taylor leveler, which works by melting off the surface on a hot plate, occupied quite a space in our papers years ago—not much said about it now. Wonder how many of the brethren are really using it. Page 438.

TWO SWARMS IN ONE HIVE OF COMB.

John S. Callbreath's scheme of two swarms in one hive full of empty comb, I'll be charitable enough to grant that it might be O. K. in some yards. In my yard, mixing bees is an abomination. Moreover, in my yard one swarm in a hive full of empty comb is O. K., and the fear of getting

the brood-nest injuriously restricted by honey a mere scarecrow. Page 439.

WIDE FRAME VS. T SUPER—COMB HONEY MANAGEMENT.

On page 439, Dr. Miller seems to infer that I use the T super or something similar. I don't. I use the old-fashioned two-decker wide frame—best outfit in the world for a lean location, and a strain of bees that is willing to use it. I put on wide frames to hold 40 sections, and more than half the time can let them stay on till the close of the season. Heavy flows of honey like angel's visits at my place. Surplus mostly something else than white, anyway. A little travel-stain does not show quite so badly on darker grades of honey. Another important thing—a large share of my customers are not spoiled, and do not demand extra-white honey. All these things must be weighed by that beginner before he follows me in preference to Dr. Miller. No, the central bottom sections are not so white-looking as the same honey is farther away. To leave one of my upper stories on till every section is done—it is not my intention to do that. Intend to take out the two or three best wide frames before that. So I guess I am not contradicting Dr. Miller's practice much more than the differing circumstances require. I'll yield so far as to admit (up to the point of the Doctor's experience) that sometimes go-backer sections have been taken off at last finished up very smoothly. Probably Dr. Miller will admit that sometimes a finish on two different levels and a general roughness is the outcome.

POPULAR PRESCRIPTIONS PARTLY PUNCTURED.

June is the season of green peas, but presumably we should not think of that particular shade of the spectrum in connection with the P. P. P.'s of "Peiro's Propolis Porous Plaster." Let us think of brown or gray, or some other of wisdom's colors. The porous plaster with propolis for medicated surface, and the turpentine liniment with propolis as ingredient seem all right. But so large a proportion of our whole population have a certain amount of superstition in their medical ideas, that a word of caution for weak brethren may not be amiss. Let us not cultivate the whim that propolis must be efficacious because it is *our* stuff—or that honey must of course have wonderful healthfulness because it is *our* product. "To the testimony" on all such matters, and no foolish assumptions. Page 445.

LONG WINTER CONFINEMENT OF BEES.

As to the length of time bees will stand confinement, the 122 days of John H. Clausen, page 315, are badly distanced by the 165 days of F. L. Day, page 446. And then comes Doolittle's golden colony, page 422, that in a farm cellar wintered perfectly 188 days. This seems to be the cap sheaf at present. These latter cases, however, not being out-of-doors are a bit less natural than the other.

POSITIVE TESTS IN THINGS APICULTURAL.

Positive tests, applied in a scientific manner, are often called for—called for as if they could be had by just opening a box and taking them out. The editorial note on page 420 very properly calls attention to our limitations. In regard to overstocking (and many other things) how can tests be made positive enough and scientific enough to satisfy captious people? Better give it up in most cases. Intelligent, practical men, with minds directed to a subject, will usually get the core of it. Until we can get greater definiteness let us be thankful for that.

PICKLED-BROOD SUGGESTION.

Prof. Cook's suggestion as to pickled brood is worth thinking of. May be not so much a definite thing of itself as a condition that sets in when considerable amounts of brood die from almost any cause. Page 420.

GRADING SECTION HONEY.

In grading honey, have standard sections of the proper grades set up for the eye to work from. Otherwise our judgment slides up and down with different times and days—and especially with different amounts of light. Page 421.

Please send us Names of Bee-Keepers who do not now get the American Bee Journal, and we will send them sample copies. Then you can very likely afterward get them subscriptions, for which work we offer valuable premiums in nearly every number of this journal. You can aid much by sending in the names and addresses when writing us on other matters.

Dr. Miller's Answers

Send Questions either to the office of the American Bee Journal, or to Dr. C. C. Miller, Marengo, Ill.

Treatment of Pickled Brood.

From reading the text-books and the bee-papers I am satisfied that my bees are affected with pickled brood. I wish you to advise me how to get rid of it. Is it best to melt up the combs, or use them again? I am satisfied the disease disappears when the honey-flow comes, so it is hard to detect it. And by changing combs in my apiary I have scattered it nearly over the yard.

IOWA.

ANSWER.—General Manager France thinks the disease is not contagious, so it is quite possible that it was not established in the different colonies by means of the frames of brood that you scattered about, but by means of a lack of unsealed honey and fresh pollen. The probability is that no present treatment will be needed, because, as you say, the disease disappears when the honey-flow is on. It is not necessary to destroy the combs. As the disease disappears in a honey-flow, if it appears again you can produce a honey-flow by feeding moderately, which will probably prove a satisfactory treatment.

Swarming and After-Swarming.

I had a swarm come out twice and cluster, and after putting them into a hive they came out and went back to their old hive. The next day I found a dead queen on the front of the hive. Two days after, they swarmed and I put them into a hive and they stayed. I put them on the old stand, with the hive they came out of beside them, intending to prevent an after-swarm by moving the hive in one week (as per instructions in the bee-books). In two days I had an after-swarm, which I dumped back in front of the old hive, and put on an Alley trap, and the next noon I found 4 dead queens in the top of the trap.

1. Did the bees kill the queens I found?
2. Did the bees drive them out? and is there probably one queen left in the hive?
3. Is it practical to use the Alley trap at swarming-time, or will it bother the bees too much?
4. Would it be practical to use it to prevent after-swarming as I did, or would there be danger of a young queen being caught while going out to mate, and the bees killing her?

MASSACHUSETTS.

ANSWERS.—1. It was a fight to the finish among the queens themselves.

2. The bees didn't drive them out, but dragged them out after they were killed. The victorious queen remained in the hive.

3. The trap does not bother the bees so very much, and you can rely on it to catch the queen.

4. The trap must be intelligently used. The bees would hardly kill a queen caught in the trap, but it would have to be removed to allow her to take her wedding flight.

Uncapping Honey—Candy for Queen-Cages.

1. How do you use the uncapping-knife? Do you have two knives at one time, one in water while using the other (as talked of at the California convention)? Does the water not spoil the honey? Somehow, uncapping goes slow with me. There is no bee-keeper near here that I can see. I have "Langstroth Revised" and "Forty Years Among the Bees."

2. If you put the knives in water, must the water be hot or cold?

3. What kind of knife do you use? I have the Bingham.

4. In the spring, when the 10 frames in the brood-chamber would be full of brood and honey, I would put on 10 empty frames, comb or foundation, then when well filled put on sections. It worked well until this spring they just swarm and swarm, and then swarm again. Before this spring I could control them as I pleased. I need half

extracted honey and half in sections. Is my way worth anything? Would you advise me to do differently?

5. How do you make candy to put in queen-cages for the bees to clean out so as to free the queen?

KANSAS.

ANSWERS.—1. I do not use an uncapping-knife—at least I have not used one for two or three years—as I work for comb honey; but when I did use one I used a single knife. There is no doubt an advantage in having two. Scarcely any water will cling to the knife when it is lifted out, especially if a little shake is given to the knife, and a very few drops of clean water will have no appreciable effect on the honey.

2. "You pays your money, you takes your choice." Quite a battle has been waged between the advocates of hot and of cold water. I suspect you'll find it a little like this: When combs are warm and soft cold water will be all right; when tough and a little cold, warm water will work better. It's an easy thing for you to try each.

3. Mine is the Novice, which I got before there was any Bingham. There is probably nothing better than the Bingham.

4. Probably nothing different is advisable, and I doubt that there's any better way to get part comb and part extracted. Some years are worse than others about swarming, and likely next year will not be so bad. In any case you ought not to have more than one swarm from each colony. See "Prevention of After-Swarms," page 435.

5. Turn to page 321 of your "Langstroth Revised," and find instructions for the candy desired, which is called Scholz candy. You're not likely to want as much as there given, so try this: Take a small quantity of the best extracted honey (easy to add to it later if you haven't enough). Better heat it (don't burn it), although it will do very well cold, then pour it on some pulverized sugar on a board or table, and stir and knead thoroughly, adding more sugar till you have a very stiff dough. Let it stand a day or two, and add more sugar if it has become too soft, so as to flatten down.

Your postage stamp frightened me, but it revived me greatly that your questions were not only plainly numbered, but each number had a ring around it so I couldn't miss it. I wish all might be as considerate.

Swarming—Tested Queen Slow Layer—Using Bee-Escapes—Nuclei Swarming.

1. When one queen is heard piping, answered by queens in cells "quahking," does it in every case positively mean that a prime swarm has already issued, and that a second swarm will issue in about 48 hours? Or is this ever heard before the first swarm, where the laying queen is about a year old?

2. (a) Is it a safe guide to expect a swarm to issue on the first favorable day after queen-cells are sealed? (b) Are they likely to swarm before cells or cell are sealed? (c) Are they likely to delay swarming for many days after the cells are sealed?

3. I have a tested queen apparently perfectly healthy that has never laid an egg since her introduction exactly one month ago on June 18. Is she likely ever to lay again?

4. I have another tested queen that did not lay till 23 days after introducing, though she is now laying sparingly. Will she be all right now? Both these queens are in strong colonies, one of blacks and the other light hybrids?

5. In using a bee-escape to take a super off a hive that has only one super on it, doesn't it crowd the bees too much in the brood-nest in a strong colony, and would it not be better to put another super with sections and foundation in it next to the brood-nest, the bee-escape over that, and the super to be removed over that? I generally put the escape on in the evening, and take it off the following morning between 9 and 10 o'clock.

6. What should a colony weigh for wintering in an 8-frame-hive, with combined hive-stand and bottom-board and ventilated gable cover?

7. Will four and three frame nuclei set out June 9 be likely to swarm this year, under favorable conditions?

VIRGINIA.

ANSWERS.—1. In general, yes. But if the old queen should be killed, or by any means put out of the way after the queen-cells were made ready for swarming, but before they were sealed, there would still be piping and quahking upon the emerging of the first young queen, although no swarm had previously issued. I don't think you will hear

any piping before the issuing of a swarm with a *laying* queen, no matter how young she may be.

2. (a) Pretty safe. (b) No. (c) No. Yet there are exceptions to all of these. When queen-cells have been destroyed in a colony, I have known them to swarm the next day with nothing farther than eggs in queen-cells. I don't know whether they will ever swarm before having sealed cells if left entirely to themselves. I doubt it. Bad weather may delay a prime swarm, but not for many days.

3. Possibly she may, probably not.

4. Likely she will never be a prolific queen. But if she has been through the mails, having been all right at the start, you may rear young queens from her and expect them to be as good as if she had continued laying well.

5. No, there is no need of an empty super under the escape to receive the bees. Now don't misunderstand me—there may be a great need of an empty super, but not because you are taking off a full one. For if a second super is needed at all, it is needed before the full one is finished. If you are going on the plan that the bees are never to work in more than one super at a time, you are probably making a costly mistake. I know that some advocate having not more than two supers on at a time, but I'm sure I should lose if I didn't sometimes have 3, 4 or more supers on at a time. At the close of the season, you may wind up with only one super on, and if it crowds the brood-nest to have the bees of that super go down, let it crowd. No use to put on an empty super when there is nothing to be stored in it.

6. Unless that cover is extra heavy, 50 pounds. More will do no hurt.

7. Hardly.

Bee-Management—Queenless Colony.

1. What course would you pursue with 3 colonies of bees? Last winter 3 colonies died, and I put the 3 hives, 2 of them under good, strong colonies, and the third above another good colony. The bees have filled both bodies, and each colony is working in the second super. It will not do to try to winter them in such shape, so how shall I manage them? The queens' wings are not clipped.

2. I have one colony that is very weak, and may be queenless. I put a frame of brood and honey in that hive a week ago, and I fear there is not force enough there to care for the frame given.

IOWA.

ANSWERS.—1. You say, "It will not do to try to winter them in such shape." Why not? They would probably winter all right in the two stories. But it will be an easy matter to reduce them to one, either now or later. Put a queen-excluder between the first and second story, and in 21 days there will be brood in only one story. Then you can take away the story without brood, shaking off the bees from the combs. When putting the excluder between the stories, it will be a little better to see that the queen is in the lower story, and to put in that story the frames that contain most brood. If you so desire, you may make a quicker job of it without any excluder. Merely take away at once half the combs, those containing the least brood, and dispose of them elsewhere.

2. Take a frame of brood and adhering bees from some other colony, making sure you don't get the queen, brush off the bees at the entrance of the weak colony, and return

the comb where you got it. If you want to make it still stronger, do the same thing with another comb. But if you give too many strange bees you may endanger the queen of the weak colony.

Brood-Diseases—Swarming, Etc.

At 11 a.m. yesterday, I had a swarm of bees, hived it, and they are working on foundation starters. The parent colony had no queen-cells, and on looking for some I discovered a number of dead larvae lying on their backs with ends up, as per description of pickled or black brood. There is positively no odor that I can distinguish. I have done nothing since finding the dead brood but study what to do. I have just put the bees, left in the parent hive, with the swarm. They left in the parent colony a full set of nurse-bees, about four or five quarts, I should think, and the six frames of Jumbo brood with hundreds of hatching bees I have just put into the wax-boiler, over a hot stove—the most cruel thing I have ever done in my apiarian experience. The authors on bee-diseases say *destroy* if you do not know, and I do not know. I have found 2 other colonies that show the same disease to a less extent. These bees are all in new Jumbo hives, transferred about June 12, and are on Miller bottom-boards, with full entrance open.

There are still four frames of foundation drawn and partly filled with honey, but no pollen. I shall keep these frames until I read your answer.

I might add that the nurse-bees had started a single cell since the parent queen left them, and that the young hatching bees that come out of the cells adjoining dead larvae seem strong and active.

1. What shall I do with the remaining colonies that show disease?

2. What made the bees swarm when some were willing to stay and try to rear a queen?

3. Would I better have fed the honey than to have thrown it into the boiler?

4. Could I have put the frames of brood in the hive, over another hive with wire-screen between, and let them hatch and live, rather than to have boiled them up with the wax? The colony now fills 10 Jumbo frames nearly full.

ILLINOIS.

ANSWERS.—1. In a matter entailing such serious possibilities, I would not trust the advice of any one, no matter how well informed about bees, unless he were thoroughly conversant with brood-diseases. I am not that, and advise you to send sample to one of the experts in that line. I may say, however, that I *think* you need not be greatly alarmed, and that notwithstanding the appearance of the dead brood the disease may disappear of itself. I base my "think" on the fact that I knew a case that appeared the same as yours, which did not terminate disastrously.

2. There seems nothing in the case different from an ordinary case of swarming, unless it be that no queen-cells were started, and I am wondering whether it might not have been that they had started cells previously and you had destroyed them.

3. While it *might* have been safe to feed such honey, it is better to take no chances, and I would not feed it without boiling.

4. Yes, I think so.

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FROM MANY FIELDS

An Apiarian Drama.

How doth the little busy bee
Manipulate her tail?
She sticks it deftly into me,
And hears me cuss and wail.

But when away she tries to dash,
Leaving the joke on me,
I elevate my fist and *mash*
That far too busy bee.

BEGINNER.

Toronto, Ont., Canada.

Filling Supers Nicely Now.

I never worked with bees much, but left them to care for themselves mostly, and consequently lost some, but I have 7 colonies in pretty good shape. They swarmed too much last year, but are not doing so much of that so far this season, and are filling supers nicely. White clover is in full bloom. It is not quite time for basswood here yet.

DAVID HAYNES.

Dallas Co., Iowa, July 4.

The Bee Journal a "Whole Team."

I do not think that I would want to be a bee-keeper without subscribing for the "Old Reliable" as long as I can. It seems to me that trying to do without the American Bee Journal would be like the fellow that wanted to be a farmer without first buying a team of horses. FRED W. MANEKE.
Madison Co., Ill., July 11.

Great Bloom—Little Honey.

We have had a great bloom of clover, etc., but the bees have gathered very little honey this year.

F. H. DRAKE.

Worcester Co., Mass., July 11.

The National and Honey Exhibits.

I see on page 469 that C. P. Dadant writes about making an exhibit at the World's Fair at St. Louis. I have been wondering why preparations were not made for a large exhibit. I think the National Association ought to make an exhibit equal to, or better than, any other. If every member will furnish honey we can make a large exhibit. I, for one, will furnish some honey; I have extracted and chunk honey, and put it up in quart Mason jars. I think it would be better to have it all put up alike. Let the Association furnish packages at cost.

I say, make a large exhibit at the Fair, and talk the selling part later on. Won't making an exhibit at Fairs be better and cheaper advertising? The Association can sell the honey after the Fair is over. Can't some arrangement be made for the National Association to make exhibits, in its name, at all the State fairs?

I see extracted honey quoted on the market at 4 to 6 cents per pound. I would like to keep all the bees that I can handle properly, but if there is not something done to raise the prices

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above those quoted, I will do something else.

I would suggest on the honey-selling part of the Association, to turn every member out, and prosecute him, who tries to put any adulterated honey on the market.

My bees stored 200 pounds per colony, spring count, last year, and they promise more than that this year.

Please let me know about saving honey and how to put it up.

N. R. WHITE.

Saline Co., Mo., July 9.

[We will have to refer this to General Manager France, as no plans of making any exhibit by the National Association have been arranged, so far as we know.—EDITOR.]

Banner Crop—Selling Honey.

I am having the banner crop this time, sure. I went into the winter battle of 1903-04 with 48 colonies and came through with 100 percent.

I am sorry to see quotations so low, although it does not affect me; I have learned to do pretty fair peddling honey, and to get something for my honey. I get 20 cents for Ideal sections (this season they weigh 16 ounces, and some 17 ounces); and 18 cents for 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ x 1 $\frac{1}{2}$. I sell through the country, and instead of selling to some grocer for 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ or 13 cents and take it in trade I sell direct to the consumer. I canvass a town, talk honey and bees, and treat people honestly and fairly. I make four grades of my honey, carry a sample of each grade, and make a sale nearly every time. My best sales last week, per day, canvassing, was \$61.10, and my lowest \$42.25.

I have increased to 70 colonies, and have taken 50 pounds from some of my colonies.

When I get time I may tell just how I work up my trade, and how I hold it.

J. M. WEST.

Pike Co., Ohio, July 9.

[We shall be pleased to publish the details of your method of working up and holding a honey-trade, Mr West. We hope you will find time to do it very soon, so that it may be of use to others the present season.—EDITOR.]

No-Drip Strips—No Clover Honey.

I am glad to see the kick about the cleats in shipping-cases, on page 451. It is my trouble, too. I want them 1 inch by $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch. The cases I bought last came with cleats $\frac{1}{2}$ inch by $\frac{1}{2}$ of an inch. Some other party gets my next order.

No clover honey here this season. The bees are at work on basswood now, and I am in hopes of getting a little.

E. C. WHEELER.

Marshall Co., Iowa, July 11.

Some Swarming Experiences.

I deliberately let one small swarm go to-day because it got in such a high and difficult place. Another swarm, a big one, chose a high and difficult place. Before its turn came yet another prime went up there as if to join them, but mostly "rallied round." Soon both swarms were mostly rallying around together, and continued at it for a very



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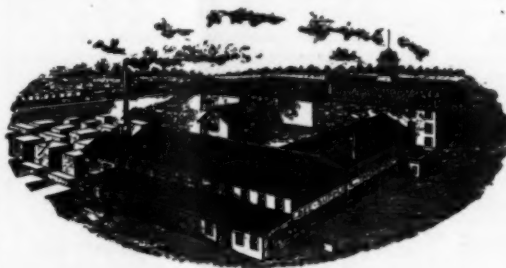
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Golden Italians, Red Clover and Carniolan Queens, Untested, during June, 1, 75c.; 6, \$4.00; 12, \$7.50.

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22A1f

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on poultry amounts to many times the cost of Lambert's Death to Lice—the sure preventive. All loss can be saved and more profit made by the use of this famous powder. It frees setting hens from these pests without harming eggs or chicks. A trial box 10c will prove it. 100 oz., by express, \$1.70 "Pocket Book Pointers" free. D. J. Lambert, Box 707, Appenzel, N. J.

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The Nickel Plate Road has placed an additional vestibuled sleeping-car on train leaving Chicago at 9:15 p.m., daily, and also on train from Cleveland to Chicago, arriving Chicago 7:40 a.m., daily, for passengers between Chicago and Cleveland, in both directions, and intermediate points. Three daily trains. No excess fare. American Club Meals, ranging in price from 35c to \$1.00, served in Nickel Plate dining-cars; also service a la carte, and mid-day luncheon, 50c. Chicago city ticket offices, 111 Adams St., and Auditorium Annex. 'Phones Central 2057 and Harrison 2208. Chicago depot, La Salle St. Station, cor. Van Buren and La Salle Sts. 16—28A3t

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To write for our prices on SECTIONS. We manufacture them, and are dealers in BEE-SUPPLIES. Send for special price and Catalog.

AUG. LOTZ & SON,
CADOTT, WIS.

24A17t

great length of time. At length the great cloud slowly rolled away with apparent intent to go to the woods. I bade them good-by. On the road, however, they passed directly over a bushel basket which I had with bees in it, and many of them were rallying around. Over this alluring spot they halted in their career—and with much waiting I had the whole mess down on the basket.

The swarm left to go when they got ready; staid only a little over an hour.

E. E. HASTY.

Lucas Co., Ohio, July 8.

A Very Dry Season.

This part of Los Angeles county will produce no surplus honey this year. If the bees make their own living without feeding they will do better than I expect. We are having a very dry season.

M. K. CHANDLER.

Los Angeles Co., Calif., July 2.

Always Up-to-Date.

I like the American Bee Journal very much; it is always up-to-date in matter pertaining to the busy bee.

J. F. PEARSON.

Humboldt Co., Calif., July 5.

Fine Basswood Flow.

We are having the finest flow from basswood I ever saw. I have taken off nearly 500 pounds of comb and extracted honey, and have more to take off. This is the invoice I took yesterday:

XX—27 supers, being capped,
of 30 sections each 810.
X—32 supers in which bees are
working 960
O—15 supers just begun 450
3 extra supers full.
13 extra supers beginning.

I am putting on 500 sections to-day. I have increased from 36 colonies to 64, but I bought 2 swarms.

It rained hard day before yesterday, and although there was a light shower yesterday the bees never stopped working. I can leave a comb of honey anywhere in the apiary without fear of robber-bees. But it won't last long thus, I fear; but we have lots of white clover in bloom, and although it had begun to fail, this good rain will keep it going.

J. E. JOHNSON.

Knox Co., Ill., July 7.

Prefers the Tall Section.

To-day is the day for celebration, and I am enjoying my Fourth taking swarms and watching the bees work. This is certainly a record-breaking season for the bees, as far as it has gone, that is, in this locality. I have never known the white clover to be so abundant before.

Say, Mr. York, what is that, on page 454, that A. C. F. Bartz is giving us in regard to the tall 4x5 section? I have studied Capt. Hetherington's life some, and I glory in his spunk and alertness. He was a firm believer in the tall 4x5 section, and he was the first to use them to any extent. I bought 10 Danzenbaker hives with the closed-end brood-frames, and 4x5x1½ sections, with the cleated separator, and I have learned for myself that the tall sec-

ITALIAN QUEENS,
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Choice home-bred and Select Imported Stock. All Queens reared in full colonies.

One Untested Queen \$.65
" Tested Queen90
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Italian Bees For Sale.

1 colony in good frame hive \$5.00
1 strong 1-frame Nucleus 1.00
1 " 2-frame " (with tested queen) 2.50
1 Untested Queen75
1 Tested Queen 1.00

My crop last season was about 40,000 pounds of honey (nearly half comb) from 210 colonies, spring count, and increased to 280 colonies, which shows my bees are hustlers.

N. STAININGER, TIPTON, IOWA.

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of Hives, Sections, and Supplies of all kinds just arrived from G. B. Lewis' Factory, and are ready to fill orders quick. Send us your orders for everything. We have it.

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5A26t

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25A1f T. F. BINGHAM, Farwell, Mich.

tions, where the separator is used with full sheets of foundation, are the nicest things of all improvements in modern bee-keeping. Mr. Bartz and myself have altogether different views of the thing. By using full sheets of foundation the tall section weighs in the neighborhood of a pound, as does the 4x4x4.

But, as the old Indian said, if everybody saw things alike every one would be after his old squaw.

Long live old Francis Danzenbaker and the 4x5 section!

The American Bee Journal is all right.
ART E. MOOREHEAD.
Leavenworth Co., Kans., July 4.

Results for 1902 and 1903.

I have been a reader of the American Bee Journal for four years, and a bee-keeper five years. I commenced with 2 colonies, and now have 30 in 10-frame Wisconsin hives. In 1902 I sold 1000 pounds of honey from 10 colonies; in 1903, 1200 pounds from 16 colonies. But when I read what some others do I fall away below.
J. M. R. WEAVER.
Harvey Co., Kans.

The Season in Mississippi.

I will again report what we have done down here this year in Dixie, which is the extreme northwest Mississippi, near the Tennessee line. I am in bee-flight of a large creek-bottom which furnishes our bees' range.

Our honey-month is usually May, but we were rained out this year in May, so did not expect to get any honey, so to speak, still the bees kept up a continual work all June and up to now. So I went "bee-robbing" last week, and to my surprise found several of the largest hives so full that they could hardly hold much more; in fact, some were a real show, suitable for the World's Fair, I think.

We have had a first-class honey-dew upon the leaves of the trees here this summer. I have time and again read what our Northern bee-keepers say about honey-dew not being good or fit to eat. That just depends upon the locality in the United States altogether. Our honey-dew honey this year will do, I am quite sure, to send to the World's Fair, and if I can get it there on exhibition, in a suitable way, I mean to do so, to the credit of our county. Therefore, I want to score in favor of our honey-dew honey. That the idea of honey-dew being from aphides is a mistake is very evident here with us. It is secreted by the trees under certain conditions very peculiar, only certain years, and very infrequent (not frequent at all).

I want to add another score here in favor of the zinc honey-board agitation, which seems doubtful with some. I am an advocate of them, and will come later with a special letter and evidence on that line, if desired. They are worth \$5.00 each to me.

We have had plenty of rain here lately—a superabundance. Crops are looking well, corn fine, owing to good rains.

We have a better bee-country down here than we are credited with. People who give bees good attention always succeed with them, if located near a river-bottom. Of course, in the dry hills bees can not be expected to do

much, excepting a few colonies for family use. There are bee-keepers in our State making bee-keeping quite an extensive business.

Success to the "old reliable" American Bee Journal and its Editor.

W. T. LEWIS.

DeSoto Co., Miss., July 12.

CONVENTION NOTICE.

National at St. Louis.—The annual session of the National Bee-Keepers' Association for 1904 will be held in September, at St. Louis, Mo.

Sept. 27 and 28 will be devoted to Association work and its interests. We expect many prominent foreign bee-keepers to be present on these days.

Sept. 29, National Day.
Sept. 30, Inspectors' Day. Twenty bee-inspectors from all over the United States and Canada are counted on to introduce and discuss "The Diseases of Bees," etc.

Mr. N. E. France will exhibit, in the Convention Hall, a large map of the United States, Canada, Cuba and Europe. Each State and Country will have a shelf attached to the map with a one-pound sample of each kind of honey produced. Many other exhibits of special interest will be shown.

We expect to see the largest gathering of bee-keepers ever held in this country. A more detailed program will appear later.

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WANTED — COMB HONEY, WHOLESALE.

Will buy your crop outright, cash at your depot anywhere in the U. S., if price and quality are right. We have salesmen in nearly every market in U. S., but buy only through Thos. J. Stanley, Manzanola, Colo., our honeyman who spends the season in the West superintending our apiaries and looking after Western car-loads of honey. Address us there direct, stating what your honey is gathered from, what grade, the average weight of section, how packed, color, etc.; quantity, when you can deliver, and lowest cash price per pound properly crated and delivered to your depot. Would like to know about what the freight rate to your nearest city. We believe that our purchases are larger than any other firm or association. Yours for business, THOS. J. STANLEY & SON, 29Atf MANZANOLA, Otero Co., COLO.

Take Notice

That the New Century Queen-Rearing Co. will have 1000 Queens ready for the mail by April 20. Tested, \$1.00; Untested, 75c; 5 for \$3.25; 10 for \$6.00. Prices on larger quantities and Nuclei given on application. "Prompt service; fair treatment" is our motto. Address,

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13Atf Please mention the Bee Journal.

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S. F. Sampson, of Roncverte, W. Va., says: "Your queens are good, and I can depend on them every time."

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Extra Tested Breeding Queens and my new book on "Queen-Rearing," \$1.50. Catalog and a small booklet on queen-rearing sent free.

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One Untested, 75c; Tested, \$1.25. Try one. Address, B. F. SCHMIDT, R. F. D. 1, NORTH BUENA VISTA, Clayton Co., Iowa.

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HONEY AND BEESWAX

MARKET QUOTATIONS

CHICAGO, July 7.—There is a plentiful supply of honey of all kinds on the market with no sales being made; prices therefore cannot be more than on an asking basis. Very little if any choice to fancy comb, but a large amount of what would average No. 1 is offered at 10@12c; no sale for off grades or damaged lots. Extracted, white, 6@7c; ambers, 5@6c. Beeswax, 28@30c. R. A. BURNETT & CO.

CINCINNATI, O., July 7.—The sales of comb honey, which are made now, amount but to very little. Some fancy comb left from last season finds sales for 12@13c. The new is just beginning to be offered and small lots are coming in. Extracted for manufacturing purposes finds a fair demand. I quote amber in barrels from 5@5.5c; in cans, 5c more; water-white alfalfa, 6@6c; extra fancy white clover, 7@7c. Beeswax, 28c. C. H. W. WEBER.

ALBANY, N. Y., June 3.—The honey market is very dull now, and prices nominal. Receipts are very light and demand the same. We quote comb honey, in good order, white, 13@15c; mixed, 12@13c; dark, 10@12c. Extracted, buckwheat, 5@6c; mixed, 5@6c; white, 6@7c. Beeswax, 30@32c. H. R. WRIGHT.

CINCINNATI, June 15.—The demand for honey is slow for this season of the year, which is due to the vast quantities that were held over from last season, and the importation of Cuban honey. We quote amber in barrels and cans at 5@6.5c; white clover, 6@8c. Beeswax, 30c. THE FRED W. MUTH CO.

BOSTON, July 8.—Our market on honey, both comb and extracted is practically in a slumbering condition, as there is really no call whatever.

Prices remain as before quoted, but are really only nominal. BLAKE, SCOTT & LEE.

KANSAS CITY, June 25.—The market is about cleaned up on old honey, and there is very little demand at present. There are a few cases of new honey coming, which are being offered at \$3.00 per case. No. 1 stock and amber at a little less. There is a great deal of old extracted on the market which is very slow sale.

Beeswax in good demand at 30c. C. C. CLEMONS & CO.

NEW YORK, June 21.—Very little demand for comb honey. Some trade for No. 1 and fancy white, at from 12@13c, while dark and amber are almost unsalable. Extracted is in fair demand, although prices are irregular. We quote from 5@6c, according to quality. Southern in barrels, at from 50@55c per gallon.

Beeswax more plentiful and prices are gradually declining. We quote 28@29c.

HILDRETH & SEGELKEN.

PHILADELPHIA, July 8.—There is little or no call for comb honey and no sales being made, with some offers of new crop at varying prices. There has been a big lot of extracted honey carried over, enough to carry through the season if no more was produced this season, from the present outlook. We quote fancy extracted, white, 7@7.5c; amber, 6c; Southern, 5@5.5c. Beeswax lower—28c.

We are producers of honey and do not handle on commission. WM. A. SELSER.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 6.—White comb, 1-lb. sections, 12@13c; amber, 9@11c. Extracted, white, 5@6c; light amber, 5@5.5c; amber, 4@4.5c; dark amber, 3@3.5c. Beeswax, good to choice, light, 28@30c; dark, 26@27c.

New crop is on market in moderate quantities, mostly from the Sacramento and San Joaquin valleys. In a small way slightly higher figures than are warranted as wholesale quotations are being realized. Offering of new up to date have been mainly amber grades.

HONEY AND BEESWAX

When consigning, buying or selling, consult

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ever had."

Untested Queens, 75c each; six, \$4.00; dozen,
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dozen, \$9.00.

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the season.

J. P. MOORE,

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